MARVEL LEGACY

GWENOM

28

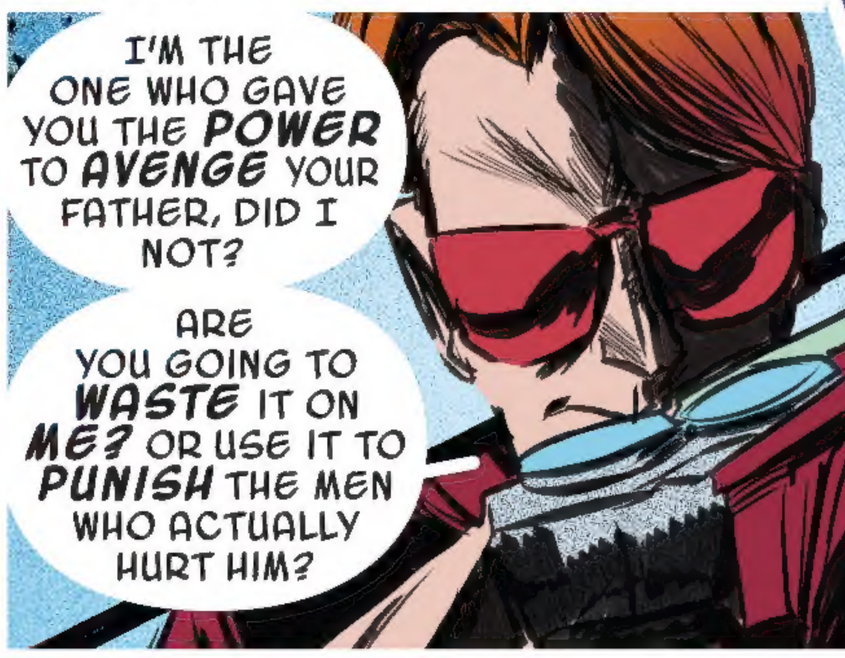
SPIDER-GWEN

LATOUR
RODRIGUEZ
RENZI

AS A TEENAGER, GWEN STACY WAS BITTEN BY A MUTATED SPIDER. THE BITE TRANSFORMED HER, GRANTING HER AMAZING POWERS: A PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER, ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES, AND THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED AND STRENGTH OF A SPIDER. BUT THOSE GIFTS WERE TAKEN AWAY WHEN A SUPER VILLAIN FURTHER TAMPERED WITH HER GENETICS, AND GWEN HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO EMBRACE A SYMBIOTIC PARASITE CALLED VENOM TO RESTORE THEM. TO THE RESIDENTS OF NEW YORK, SHE IS THE DANGEROUS OUTLAW CALLED SPIDER-WOMAN, BUT YOU KNOW HER AS…

SPIDER-GWEN

PREVIOUSLY...


I'M THE ONE WHO GAVE YOU THE POWER TO AVENGE YOUR FATHER, DID I NOT?
ARE YOU GOING TO WASTE IT ON ME? OR USE IT TO PUNISH THE MEN WHO ACTUALLY HURT HIM?

WRITER JASON LATOUR

ARTIST ROBBI RODRIGUEZ

COLOR ARTIST RICO RENZI

LETTERER VC's CLAYTON COWLES

COVER ROBBI RODRIGUEZ

TITLE PAGE ART RICO RENZI, ROBBI RODRIGUEZ & ANTHONY GAMBINO

PRODUCTION DESIGNER CARLOS LAO

ASSISTANT EDITOR KATHLEEN WISNESKI

EDITOR DEVIN LEWIS

EDITOR IN CHIEF C.B. CEBULSKI

CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER JOE QUESADA

PRESIDENT DAN BUCKLEY

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ALAN FINE

GWEN STACY CREATED BY STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO

© 2018 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. WWW.MARVEL.COM

THE MARY JANES
CANCELED
WHEN I FIRST PUT ON MY MASK...
...I WASN'T DOING IT TO HIDE.
I NEVER SET OUT TO LIE TO ANYONE.
HAVE YOU SEEN OUR FRIEND???
IF SO, PLEASE CALL OR TEXT 646.212.2417
I JUST HAD TOO MANY RESPONSIBILITIES.
TOO MANY EXPECTATIONS.
I KNEW THAT NO MATTER WHAT I COULD DO NOW, OR WHAT I'D BECOME--
--I'D ALWAYS BE GWEN TO YOU.
YOU'D NEVER LET ME GROW. OR CHANGE. NOT REALLY.
SO I THOUGHT IT WAS BETTER TO PRETEND NOTHING CHANGED. TO LET GWEN STACY REMAIN SOMEONE YOU COULD UNDERSTAND.
SO I SPLIT MY LIFE IN TWO.
LIVED TWO HALVES OF NOTHING.

FOR A VERY LONG TIME, I'VE BEEN SCARED TO ADMIT THAT.

TERRIFIED THAT SAYING IT ALOUD WOULD MAKE IT *TRUE.*

BUT NOW?

WE DON'T HAVE THE TIME FOR LIES.

WE DON'T HAVE THE LUXURY.

HSSSS

TO DO WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE, WE HAVE TO BE WHOLE.

WE'RE TOO *ANGRY* TO BE SCARED ANYMORE.

W-WHY?

W-WHY ARE YOU D-DOING THIS...

MR. MURDOCK...

DING DING

...WHY WON'T YOU LET ME DIE?

"WHY?"

HEH. AFTER ALL THESE YEARS--I FINALLY GET WHAT THE NUNS HATED ABOUT THAT QUESTION.

DING DING DING

YOU KNOW, OFFICER ROGERS-- THIS STUPID "WATCH" HASN'T SHUT UP SINCE I STOLE IT FROM SPIDER-WOMAN.

DING DING DING

ALL NIGHT LONG, IT DINGS. LIKE SOME STUPID TELL-TALE HEART.

I HAVE NO IDEA ***WHY.*** OR HOW TO MAKE IT STOP.

YOUR STUPID QUESTIONS, ON THE OTHER HAND...

HURRNNGH...

HEH. "WHY?"

YOU'RE ROADKILL, RICHIE-- THE HIGHWAY'S ALREADY GIVEN YOU YOUR ANSWERS.

"WHY DIDN'T I SHOW SOME SELF-CONTROL?"

"WHY COULDN'T I JUST KEEP QUIET ABOUT CAPTAIN STACY?"

AH, THOSE PESKY LITTLE SECRETS. THEY HAVE A WAY OF KEEPING **YOU,** DON'T THEY, RICHIE?

AS A PROFESSIONAL PUPPET MASTER, I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE BURDEN OF KNOWLEDGE.

THE INNER WAR BETWEEN THE ARTISTE, STANDING INVISIBLY BEHIND THE WORK...

...AND THE ***ENTERTAINER,*** JUST DYING FOR APPLAUSE.

AND THAT'S "WHY" THIS IS HAPPENING TO YOU--

YOU'RE ONLY STILL BREATHING BECAUSE YOU WON'T BE MUCH LONGER.

BECAUSE, IN THE END, I'M MORE LIKE YOU THAN ANYONE WILL EVER KNOW.

I **NEED** AN AUDIENCE, RICHIE.

I **NEED** A PRIEST...

"...I NEED SOMEONE TO KNOW WHY."

OSCORP

MATT...?

MATTHEW... SON...WHERE ARE YOU?

I CAN'T...CAN'T SEE...

MOM?

MOM, HOLD ON. PLEASE...HELP IS...JUST...

CLOSER... MATT...

I CAN'T...JUST NEED...

...NEED TO SEE YOUR...

MOM?

YEAH, WE HEARD YOUR "ANSWER."

BUT "NO" WON'T DO. YOU FIGHT FOR US, "BATTLIN' JACK."

MEANIN' YOU ONLY WIN WHEN BOSS SILVERMANE SAYS YOU WIN.

SO WHEN WE TELL YOU TO TAKE A DIVE? YOU PINCH YOUR NOSE AND ASK--

"--HOW DEEP?"

YOUR WINNER AND NEW CHAMPIOOONNN...

BATTLIN' JACK MUUURRDOCK!

BLAM BLAM BLAM

BAT

GYM

C'MON, HE'S A BLIND KID. WHAT'S HE GONNA--

YOU HEARD SILVERMANE--

--NO WITNESSES.

CLICK

WHAT THE-- HNGH!

BLAM BLAM

KRUNCH

AIEEGGGH!

BATTLIN' JACK'S GYM

"YER ONE LUCKY KID, YA KNOW THAT?"

MARGARET MURDOCK

JONATHAN MURDOCK

SURE, CHAOS AND ORDER...YEAH, BOTH SIDES OF THE UNIVERSE DONE YA WRONG.

AIN'T NO DOUBT 'BOUT THAT.

BUT FOR ALL LIFE'S TAKEN FROM YA--

--IT'S GIVEN YA ***POWER.***

A ***PURPOSE*** MOST FOLKS'D CHEAT, LIE AN' DIE FOR.

THERE'S A WAR ON, MATT.

AGAINST THE GREED AN' NEGLIGENCE THAT TOOK YER MOMMA.

TO STOP THE KINDA MEN WHO RUINED YER POP.

I'M A FIVE-STAR GENERAL, SON--

"--AN' I NEED ME SOME GOOD SOLDIERS."

IT'S OVER, SILVERMANE.

YER AS YESTERDAY AS YER CHEAP SUITS.

HEH. I SEE YOU FOUND YOURSELF A NEW FRIEND, STICK--

BAMF

FUNNY. I FOUND ME A FEW OF MY OWN.

BAMF

BAMF

BAMF

MASTER STICK?

KIRIGI.

GET BEHIND ME, MATTHEW.

KRROSSC...

MASTER!

MASTER STICK!

THE BOY?

A CHILD DID ALL OF *THIS?*

AND YOU DARE TO STILL BREATHE?

WHERE IS YOUR HONOR?

B-BUT *MASTER SAMURA...*

HE--HE MOVES AS IF TEN STEPS AHEAD.

WITH THE SIGHT OF A THOUSAND EYES!

FEH. FOOL.

THE BOY'S POWER DID NOT BEST YOU. EVEN WITHOUT EYES, STICK COULD SEE...

HE HAS *NOTHING* LEFT.

NOTHING TO FEAR.

NOTHING TO HIDE.

"WITHOUT A LIFE TO CAGE HIM...

"...HE CAN BE ANYTHING."

"AND SO I JOINED *THE HAND...*"

A FAMILY SITCOM OF ENDLESS TORTURE AND TRIAL...

...WHERE SIBLINGS FIGHT TO THE DEATH FOR A DOG'S SCRAPS...

...AND A WARRIOR'S WORTH WAS BASED ON THE EASE WITH WHICH HE COULD KILL HIS FIRST LOVER.

AN INESCAPABLE GLOBAL EMPIRE OF MURDER AND GRAFT.

A FINGER IN EVERY PIE. A DEATH GRIP ON EVERY CULTURE.

THANK GOD I WASN'T RAISED BY THE ALABAMA BRANCH.

"THE HAND WAS THE CLOSEST I'VE EVER COME TO HAVING A PURPOSE.

"BOUND IN BLOOD. MY POWER UNBRIDLED.

"IT WAS THE CLOSEST TO UNDERSTANDING I'VE EVER FELT."

BUT YOU SEE, MASTER SAMURA WAS WRONG IN THE END, RICHIE.

LOSS FREED ME.

BUT **POWER** CAGED ME.

"I AM SOMETHING MORE THAN THEY COULD EVER UNDERSTAND."

SOON EVEN THE HAND FEARED ME.

SO THEY DID WHAT ANY PARENT WOULD DO.

THEY SENT ME AWAY.

NEW YORK WAS INTENDED TO OCCUPY ME. TO BE MY SCRATCHING POST.

"POSITIONED BESIDE FISK, I BROKE MAN'S LAWS FROM WITHIN AND WITHOUT

"AND WHEN THAT WASN'T ENOUGH, I BURIED MY KNIFE DEEP IN HIS BACK--

"--AND TOOK ALL HE HAD

"JUST LIKE THAT I SIMPLY REACHED OUT AND DID THE IMPOSSIBLE

"I'D NEVER BEEN SO HIGH

"OR FELT SO LOW

"THERE WAS NOWHERE ELSE TO GO. ALL THAT LAY AHEAD WAS **BLOOD** SIMPLY FOR THE SAKE OF **BLOOD.**

"I'D LIE AWAKE WISHING IT WERE TAKEN AWAY, FEARING THAT IT WOULD BE

"BECAUSE I KNEW THAT NOT ONLY ***WOULD*** I DO IT ALL AGAIN...

"...BUT THAT ***NO ONE ELSE*** COULD STOP ME

"BUT BEFORE I COULD...

"...I SAW HER...

THE MARY JANES
CANCELED

"--AND I KNEW I WAS NO LONGER ALONE."

LOOK, I KNOW THIS IS...

...WELL, IT'S A LOT.

I DON'T KNOW WHY I EXPECT YOU TO FOLLOW THIS.

OR TO EVER UNDERSTAND...

I'VE LIED TO YOU SO LONG.

I DON'T KNOW WHY I EXPECT YOU TO EVER BELIEVE ME.

OR TO TRUST ME.

OR EVER FORGIVE ME.

IT'S JUST... IF WHAT'S LEFT OF GWEN STACY HAS TO DIE...

...I NEEDED YOU TO KNOW WHAT I DID IT ALL FOR.

I NEEDED YOU TO KNOW *WHY.*

GWEN...I'M NOT GOING TO LIE TO YOU...

...THIS IS SOME #$%@&$% YOU'VE PUT US THROUGH.

BUT, C'MON--YOU'RE OUR ***SISTER.*** WHAT DID YOU THINK WE WERE GONNA DO?

I MEAN, EM JAY'S BEEN CONVINCED YOU'RE SPIDER-WOMAN FOR WEEKS. WE'VE SEARCHED HEAVEN AND EARTH TO FIND YOU--

AND HOBOKEN! I WENT TO NEW #G$% JERSEY!

WE CAN HELP YOU. EM JAY, TELL HER WE CAN--

YOU SAID "DIE." WHAT DID YOU MEAN, "GWEN STACY HAS TO DIE"?

MATT MURDOCK, HE--

--HE NEVER FLINCHES. NEVER HESITATES.

HE'S NOT BURDENED BY SYMPATHY OR CONCERN FOR OTHERS...

I'M AFRAID I CAN'T STOP HIM.

NOT WITHOUT LETTING GO OF WHO I WAS, FOREVER.

GWEN, THAT'S CRAZY. THAT'S--

IT'S CLOWN TOWN CURLY FRIES!

THIS ISN'T YOUR...WHY DOES THIS HAVE TO BE YOU? YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANY OF THIS!

LET CAPTAIN AMERICA HANDLE THIS!

NO.

BEN... DON'T.

NO. I'M SORRY, MAY. BUT THIS...

THESE GIRLS ARE WRONG, GWEN. **THIS.** THIS IS THE **PRICE.**

PETER **PAID** IT. YOUR FATHER...

IT'S **YOUR** TURN.

YOU **ALONE** HAVE BEEN GIVEN THIS...

...THIS CHANCE TO MAKE THIS BASTARD MURDOCK **PAY** FOR WHAT HE DID TO YOUR FATHER.

TO MAKE **LOSING** PETER **COUNT.**

YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN THIS **POWER** FOR A REASON, GWEN.

YOU.

NO ONE ELSE...

"...THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY."

HRRNG...

BEFORE SPIDER-WOMAN, I WAS ALONE, YOU SEE.

WHO ELSE COULD KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO FACE SUCH TEMPTATION?

TO WIELD **REAL** POWER?

AND IN THAT MOMENT WHEN I SAW HER, I THOUGHT-- YES, OF COURSE. OF COURSE SHE'LL UNDERSTAND.

YET, AFTER ALL I'VE SHOWN HER...

...SHE STILL RESISTS.

CLINGS TO HER STUPID, CHILDISH MORALITY.

I WANTED HER AT MY SIDE.

BUT IF GWEN STACY WON'T BE TURNED...

I WON'T BE...

...I **CANNOT** BE THE ONLY ONE WHOM **POWER** HAS **CORRUPTED.**

SLSSH

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING, RICHIE.

I FEEL...MUCH BETTER.

DING DING DING

BRIGG

BRIGG

"IT'S TIME."

TIME TO **FINALLY** TAKE THIS **WAR** TO **MURDOCK.**

"I'LL BE IN TOUCH."

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

BUDDA DAT DAT DAT DAT

OH GOD, WHAT'S HE--

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

AIIIEEEGGGHH!

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

BANG BANG BANG

DON'T LET HIM GET OUT OF THIS LOB--

BOOOOM

MASTER MURDOCK!

WE HAVE AN INTRUDER. THE BUILDING IS UNDER ATTACK. IT'S--

YES.

DEPLOY YOUR NINJA, OTOMO.

IF IT'S A **WAR** HE WANTS...

"...IT'S A WAR FRANK CASTLE WILL GET."

NEXT: UNDER SIEGE!

SPIDER-GWEN

#29!

ON SALE NEXT MONTH!

ZONE